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SOURCE Kuang-ming Jih-pao

HEAVY RAINS IN CHINA, 19 - 22 MAY 1953

There was unusually heavy rainfall throughout China from 19 to 22 May 1953. The amount of precipitation, reported by areas, was as follows:

The cities of Mukden, Shuai-liao, Chin-chou, and Ssu-p'ing in Liaosi Province received from 13 to 18 millimeters of rain.

About 15 millimeters of rain fell in the city of Nun-chiang in northern Heilungkiang Province and in the area north of Harbin in Sungkiang Province.

On 20 May, 42 millimeters of rain fell in the northeastern part of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region around Cha-lan-tun, and slightly less fell in other areas.

On 19 May, from 4-7 inches of rain fell in the self-governing T'a-la-t'e and Chun-ke-erh Banners in Suiyuan Province. From 3-5 inches of rain fell in Chi-ning Hsien and Feng-chen Hsien in east Suiyuan, and from 3-4 inches in Kuei-sui Hsien of central Suiyuan. In Wu-ch'uan Hsien in north Suiyuan and in neighboring cities 2 inches of rain fell.

It rained steadily in several hsien in Hopeh Province. The prolonged dry spell that covered the two special administrative districts of Kalgan and T'ang-shan has now passed. On 19 and 20 May, most parts of Shansi Province received rain; about 20 millimeters fell in Ching Hsien and 40 millimeters in T'ien-chen.

In northwest Shensi at Hua Hsien and Chi-shan, about 25 millimeters of rain fell, 12 millimeters fell just north of Yen-an, 23 millimeters fell south of An-k'ang, and less than 10 millimeters fell in west Pao-chi.

Between 10 and 12 millimeters of rain fell in P'ing-liang in Kansu Province on 19 and 20 May. After a brief let up, the rain continued to fall on 21 and 22 May.

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The Southwest Administrative Area received no rain during the first part of May, but between the 19 and 22, most areas of Szechwan, Sikkang, and Kweichow Provinces received a little less than 10 millimeters.

On 20 and 21 May rain fell in the three eastern provinces of Shantung, Anhwei, and Kentsu. It rained particularly hard in Shantung. The area north of Ta Hsien received 16 millimeters. T'ai-an, south of T'ai Shan, received 82.6 millimeters. Between 30 and 40 millimeters of rain fell north of the Yangtze in such places as Yen-ch'ang, Tung-h'ai, and Hsi-shou. There was comparatively less rain south of the Yangtze, with less than 10 millimeters falling in Suchow and Chen-chiang.

From 19 to 23 millimeters of rain fell in Su Hsien of Anhwei Province and in various parts of Ku-pien Hsien, and more than 20 millimeters in the fertile region south of the Yangtze. The An-ch'ing area and Su-hu Hsien along the coast of the Yangtze River also received about 10 millimeters.

About 10 millimeters of rain fell in north Chekiang Province, and from 10 to 25 millimeters fell in southern Chekiang and in most of Fukien Province.

On 20 and 21 May it rained in the provinces of Hupeh and Honan in Central-South China Administrative Area. In the mountainous area of Chiang-an Hsien in Hupeh Province more than 20 millimeters of rain fell. About 100 millimeters fell in Ch'ang-shan and Hsiao-shan, and a little less than 25 millimeters in Ch'ang-shan and the west of I-ch'ang on the Upper Yangtze. This was an unusually wet spring for these areas of Hupeh. The farmers took advantage of this opportunity and prepared for a future dry spell by making dirt reservoirs to retain the water to be used for future irrigation. Except for Hsi-yang and Hsin-yang, it rained comparatively little in Honan, leaving no water reserve. An-yang, Hsin-hsiang, and P'u-yang received from 33 to 40 millimeters of rain.

In most of Hunan Province 50 millimeters of rain fell. However, Yuan-chiang Hsien, one of the areas that received much less; from 0.1 to 10 millimeters fell in this four period.

In a 20-day period from 20 to 30 millimeters of rain fell at Nan-ch'ang and Nan-ch'ang in Hunan Province, although much less rain fell in other areas of the province.

Little rain fell in the provinces of Kiangtung and Kwangsi.

When the rain ended the dry spell, the farmers throughout the provinces energetically transplanted young rice plants and did other required work.

Except for the dry spell, most areas were able to proceed with their planting. In Kiangtung Province after the dry spell was alleviated by the rain, the farmers planted rice and cotton and carefully spread manure on the paddy fields to help the growing grain. This rain, together with the use of special seeds, will prevent a small wheat crop that would have been caused by the drought. A better crop harvest is not guaranteed. Planting can still take place early enough to enable it to be harvested in the fall before frost damage.

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